

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay. The examiner has indicated that the case contains allowable subject matter.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. US-style heading have been added and some other minor changes have been made. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

Claim 11, which originally depended directly from independent claim 1, has been found to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly the subject matter of claim 1, cleaned up to comply with US practice, has been added to claim 11, making it independent and allowable. Claims 12 and 14, which have also been edited to better comply with US practice, depend from claim 11 and are therefore also allowable.

A new set of claims US-style claims has been inserted in the case.

New claim 15, which basically corresponds to original claims 1 and 2, describes, as shown in FIGS. 1-5, A machine tool for cutting a profile in a rotating workpiece, the tool comprising:

a body 10 centered having an elongated edge formed with an angularly extending row of seats each having a radially directed seat face 20 and an axially directed seat face 21;

respective Z-shaped holders 12 in the seats each having an outer part 15 forming a holder face 26 axially confronting the respective axially directed seat face 21,

an inner part 17 offset from and generally parallel to the respective outer part 15 and formed with a holder face radially confronting the respective radially directed seat face 20, and

a middle part 16 that extends transversely between the respective inner and outer parts 15, that is more flexible than the respective inner and outer parts 15 and that extends between, and that connects the respective inner and outer parts 15 and 17, whereby the holder can flex at the middle part 16;

respective fasteners 31 releasably fixing the inner parts 17 to the body 10 against relative movement;

respective cutting inserts 11 on the outer parts 15 of the holders 12;

means 18 releasably fixing the inserts 11 on the respective holders 12;

an adjustment wedge 13 between one of the seat faces (21) and the respective holder face 26 and displaceable in a respective wedge direction to shift the outer part 15 of the respective holder 12 relative to the body 10 and transversely of the respective one seat face 21; and

respective means 23 braced between the wedge 13 and the body 10 for shifting the wedge 13 in and against the direction and thereby changing the orientation of the respective holder and insert transverse to the respective one seat face 21.

Thus claim 1 clearly describes the Z-shaped holder that is built to flex centrally to allow adjustment of the position of the insert it carries.

US patent 4,547,100 of Naccarato proposes a cassette 300 that has a slot 310 allowing the cassette to flex. It is the examiner's position that this anticipates the Z shape now clearly defined in claim 15. More accurately, Naccarato shows a C-shaped system that can centrally flex somewhat. There is no radial adjustment whatsoever. FIG. 3 is a radial view, so that in Naccarato the adjustment is axial only. In this dense art, this is therefore not a teaching of making a flexible holder for radial adjustment.

US 5,188,490 of Muendlen merely shows a tool with an adjustable cassette. The adjustment mechanism has a wedge 46 that

can move radially (presuming the rotation axis to be vertical in FIG. 1) for axial adjustment of the tool 23. Here the entire tool holder moves. There is no flexing and nothing resembling the Z-shaped holder of this invention.

In US 3,276,101 of Plein axial shifting of the wedge 48 effects radial movement of the cassette. However, as described in column 2, lines 40 - 56, this is not the same flexing action of the holder as defined in claim 15. Once again there is nothing suggesting a Z-shaped holder.

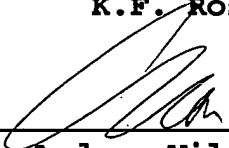
US 3,914,841 of Borgardt has a C-shaped holder. This is therefore cumulative to Naccarato, at best. Thus the two references with some flexing in the holder both teach that the holder should be C-shaped, in other words they both teach away from the instant invention.

Finally the admitted prior art of DE 37 36 246 of Bartels has triangular indexable cutting inserts mounted on a holder 13. Nothing suggests using Z-shaped flexing holders.

The art therefore does not anticipate the Z-shaped holder of new claim 15. No rejection under §102 or §103 of new claim 15 is possible. Allowance of all claims is in order.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,  
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